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I have been an advocate for the initiative process since 1981. I am a third-year law student at the University of Montana.

My greatest concern is **Section 6.** at 13-27-201 (2) ... "and may not contain a preamble or argumentative language." Preambles are commonly used by legislators and initiative sponsors alike. It is part of the power of legislation reserved by the people in the Montana Constitution. Preambles state the case for the measure and may help it to survive a court challenge.

Prohibiting a preamble also eliminates the use of the initiative to pass a resolution. In 1982 Montanans passed Initiative 91, a resolution informing the Federal government Montana opposed the deployment of MX missiles. Enacting a statute would have been inappropriate, unnecessary, and have cluttered up the law.

Please amend SB 96 as follows:

On page 8, line 22, strike: "a preamble or".